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Communication Center

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM  
FIRE ADMINISTRATION

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John W. Gist  
Fire Chief

John W. Lucas  
Deputy Fire Chief

October 28, 2003

Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S W  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Madame Secretary,

As a chief for the Winston-Salem Fire Department, I know how important it is for firefighters and other public safety personnel to have access to clear and reliable communication tools. But today, interference in the 800 MHz spectrum continues to threaten this access.

We cannot continue to tolerate this problem. Without clear and reliable communications, firefighters simply cannot do their job as well as they should be able to.

I know that a number of potential fixes have been presented to the FCC to address the interference problem. But it seems to me that only the Consensus Plan for realigning the 800 MHz spectrum, is truly aiming to eradicate interference, rather than just fix it case-by-case when it happens to occur. It is this proactive approach that has led me to join my colleagues from the International Association of Fire Chiefs in supporting the Plan.

Now I ask that you join me and hundreds of public safety organizations across the state and the country in voicing your support to the FCC and speaking out on behalf of the Consensus Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

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